

ICPAC REPORTING ON RCC PROGRESS AND PRODUCTS

As a demonstration phase RCC-RA1

IGAD Regional Climate Centre (A WMO RCC of RA I)

1. ICPAC Operational Regional Climate Forecast (RCOF)

As IGAD RCC on demonstration phase as WMO RCC, ICPAC does the following:

- ICPAC accesses and interprets the relevant LRF products through the WMO Lead Centres for Long-Range Forecast Multi-Model Ensemble (LRFMME) for regional consensus climate forecasts for the Greater Horn of Africa (GHA).
- ICPAC is developing a capacity to downscale the GPCs whose hindcast data sets and real time forecast outputs are available to provide calibrated and detailed rainfall performance at regional and sub-regional scales.
- ICPAC holds regular Regional Climate Outlook Forums (RCOFs), including the latest GHACOF37 to provide regional consensus climate outlooks. The latest GHACOF statement is available at the following website link: http://www.icpac.net/Forecasts/GHACOF37/GHACOF37_Statement_Final.pdf and all previous GHACOF products are therein.
- ICPAC disseminates relevant forecast information to RCC Users, mainly the NMHSs, Intergovernmental agencies of the region, National government agencies, UN agencies such as UNISDR, and NGOs, including the International Federation of the Red Cross, and other interface organisations.
- ICPAC, in collaboration with key partners produces relevant tailored climate forecast products for various socio-economic sectors such food security and livestock, water resources, Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and health among others,
- ICPAC performs continuous verification of forecast products.
- ICPAC provides unrestricted online access to RCC products/services to RCC Users. The products include seasonal regional consensus climate outlooks, monthly outlooks, and ten-day outlooks.
http://rcc.icpac.net/modules/rcc/bbs_view.php?type=S&tm_id=1&cdepth=2&upnu m=6&ca_id=131&s1=3&t1=5

http://rcc.icpac.net/modules/rcc/bbs_view.php?type=M&tm_id=1&cdepth=2&upnum=6&ca_id=21&s1=2&t1=5

http://rcc.icpac.net/modules/rcc/bbs_view.php?type=D&sm_id=&tm_id=1&cdepth=2&upnum=6&ca_id=133&t1=5&s1=1

- ICPAC obtains and assesses feedback on tailored RCC products from users. Means of feedback include user sessions during Regional Climate Outlook Forums alongside interaction with NMHSs and key interface organizations such as Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) among others.

2. ICPAC Operational Activities for Climate Monitoring

For operational climate monitoring ICPAC undertakes:

- Performs climate diagnostics including Seas Surface Temperatures and atmospheric flow regimes, and typical storms and cyclones among others.
- ICPAC has adopted and uses the recommended WMO practices with respect to climate baseline periods and long term means in regional climate diagnosis and analysis, using the historical reference climatology for 1961 to1990. The base period 1961-1990 is most ideal for GHA region because observational data density is best for the region.
- ICPAC performs analysis of climate variability at regional and sub-regional scales for regional guidance on trends and patterns of climate extremes for assessment of associated impacts.
- ICPAC provides regional Climate Watches.

Some of the monitoring products are available at the following web links:

http://rcc.icpac.net/modules/rcc/bbs_view.php?type=D&tm_id=1&cdepth=2&upnum=6&ca_id=133&s1=1&t1=5

http://rcc.icpac.net/modules/rcc/bbs_view.php?type=W&tm_id=1&cdepth=2&upnum=6&ca_id=135&s1=4&t1=5

3. ICPAC Training in the use of operational RCC products and services

On capacity building and training services, ICPAC:

- Carries out capacity building training for National climate service providers on advanced climate modelling and prediction skills and expertise.
- Undertakes capacity building training workshops for user sectors such as water resources, agriculture and food security, Disaster Risk Reduction and marine resources among others.
- Coordinates training towards the usage of RCC products, e.g. on interpretation for informed applications and guidance on usage of the products.
- Provides information on methodologies and product specifications.
- ICPAC training programmes and activities are in line with WMO standards for climate science

4. ICPAC Operational Data Services, to support operational LRF and climate monitoring:

- ICPAC is developing gridded regional climate datasets
- ICPAC provides climate database and archiving services at the request of NMHSs

5. Operational Research

- ICPAC operational research strength is derived from researchers from university scholars from within and outside the IGAD region (e.g., University of Nairobi, Great Lakes University of Kenya, University of Connecticut, North Carolina State University, Florida State University, University of Reading and University of Cardiff (UK) among others.
- ICPAC has internal research collaboration and development programmes with national and international research institutions, e.g., Kenya Medical and Research Institute (KEMRI) and International Research Institute for Society (IRI).
- ICPAC works closely with international research projects within the WMO WCRP such as CLIVAR.

6. Partnerships

- ICPAC being a specialised Institution of IGAD has some key scientific and support staff who are full time IGAD employees.

- Most of the activities of ICPAC are undertaken through projects. The main development partners of ICPAC include European Union, African Development Bank (AfDB); World Bank, USAID, Rockefeller Foundation, and Korea International Cooperation agency (KOICA) among others.